



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East & North Cumbria
ICB FOI 261

NECS - John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

Tel: (0191) 301 1300
Fax: (0191) 374 4102
E-mail: Necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net

14 March 2023

By Email

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information – NHS North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 02 March 2023 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For information Clinical Commissioning Groups ceased to exist on 30 June 2022. Services that were previously delivered by the CCG are now being delivered by the successor organisation NHS North East and North Cumbria (ICB). This covers the areas of County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

Please could you provide me with the data requested:

1. Please provide me with a full comprehensive list of what oral contraceptive pills (that includes the combined pill, the mini pill etc.) are on the recommended formulary to be prescribed in your area.

2. What oral contraceptives pills (that includes the combined pill, the mini pill etc.) are not on the available formulary and are restricted from being prescribed in your area, and for what reason e.g. too costly?

For both questions above please provide me with the most up to date data you have on record.

Our Response

All formulary recommended oral contraceptive pills are listed on the three formularies that currently cover North Cumbria North East ICB.

They are available as follows:

[North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Formulary
\(northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk\)](http://northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk)

[South Tyneside and Sunderland
Area Prescribing Committee Formulary Formulary
\(sunderlandccg.nhs.uk\)](http://sunderlandccg.nhs.uk)

[County Durham & Tees Valley Formularies & Guidelines - NECS Medicines Optimisation
\(necsu.nhs.uk\)](http://necsu.nhs.uk)

The three formularies are approved via the three Area Prescribing Committees to which they are linked. The committees follow the same policy in relation to formulary choices and balance cost, clinical effectiveness and side effects/risk profile for all products included or not included on formulary. Formulary choices are also made in consultation with local sexual health clinical specialists.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by The North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

Pamela Coxon

Pamela Coxon
Information Governance Officer